

Sursurunga language

Sursurunga is an Oceanic language of New Ireland.

Number

Sursurunga is famous for having a five-way grammatical number distinction. The numbers beside singular, dual, and plural have been called trial and quadral (Hutchisson 1986); however, these numbers, which only occur on pronouns, indicate a minimum of three and four, not exactly three and four the way the dual indicates exactly two.^[3] They are equivalent to "a few" and "several", and Corbett has called them (*lesser*) *paucal* and *greater paucal*. The trial cannot be used for dyadic kinship terms, whereas the quadral is used for two or three such pair relationships.

References

1. Sursurunga (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/sgz/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)

2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Sursurunga" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/surs1246>). *Glottolog* 3.0. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.

3. Corbett, Greville G., *Number*, Cambridge Textbooks in Linguistics, P240.8.C67 2000, ISBN 0-521-64016-4

Sursurunga	
Region	New Ireland
Native speakers	(3,000 cited 1991) ^[1]
Language family	Austronesian <ul style="list-style-type: none">Malayo-Polynesian<ul style="list-style-type: none">Oceanic<ul style="list-style-type: none">Western<ul style="list-style-type: none">Meso-Melanesian<ul style="list-style-type: none">(St George linkage)<ul style="list-style-type: none">Sursurunga
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	sgz
Glottolog	surs1246 (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/surs1246) ^[2]

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